Case Summary — Nelson Angelo Piquet et al. (Environmental Crimes at Lençóis Maranhenses)

Case No. 1016396-27.2020.4.01.3700 ·
8ª Vara Federal Ambiental e Agrária da SJMA (TRF-1)

Type: Crimes Ambientais — alleged violation of **Lei 9.605/98, art. 40 (Environmental Crimes)**.

Parties

- **Prosecution:** Ministério Público Federal.
- **Defendants:** Nelson Angelo Piquet; João Pedro da Rocha Morais; Francisco José Sancho Rios II.

Allegation

The MPF alleges the defendants **entered the Parque Nacional dos Lençóis Maranhenses** (a federally protected conservation unit) **with motorized vehicles**, damaging the park's **Zona Primitiva** (an ecologically fragile, strictly protected area), aided by a local guide known as "Mourinho." (Piquet-Junior-Environmental-1016396-10-Indictment-Received-Decision.pdf.pdf)

ANPP (Non-Prosecution Agreement) Offers and Terms

- **Initial proposal (2020):** MPF offered an **ANPP** to all three: payment of the **ICMBio fine (R$10.000)**, **6 months of community service (4h/week)**, and **travel restrictions**. (Piquet-Junior-Environmental-1016396-01-ANPP-Initial-Proposal.pdf.pdf)

Service/Intimation History and Hearings

- **Nov 19, 2021:** Court orders renewed attempts to locate **Piquet** and **João Pedro** and postpones scheduling until they retain counsel.
- **Mar 30, 2022: Videoconference hearing set for Jul 27, 2022** to present ANPP; defendants must provide counsel and emails; silence would presume rejection.
- **Jul 15, 2022:** Court **cancels the hearing**; records **"intimação por hora certa"** for Piquet due to difficulty locating him and recognizes **likely tacit rejection**; directs further steps for João Pedro and written response from Francisco.
- **Jun 7, 2023:** Court **formalizes Piquet's tacit renunciation** of the ANPP; keeps efforts to locate João Pedro; schedules ANPP hearing for Francisco.
- **Jul 4, 2023:** Court reiterates attempts to reach João Pedro and warns that, if unsuccessful, it will move to **admissibility of the indictment** against Piquet and João Pedro.

- **Aug 18, 2023: Francisco accepts** revised ANPP terms (fine + service). Defense informs the court that **Piquet wants an ANPP**, so the court **sets Oct 25, 2023** for his ANPP presentation.
- **Oct 25, 2023: Piquet no-shows** the ANPP hearing, despite prior notice and counsel's indication he would attend even without formal summons; judge notes previous **houra-certa** service.

Indictment and Current Status

- **Apr 10, 2024:** Court **homologates Francisco's ANPP** and **receives the criminal charges** against **Piquet** and **João Pedro** for **art. 40, Lei 9.605/98**, finding **indícios de autoria e materialidade** and ordering their **citation to answer** within 10 days.
- **2025 Docket Activity:** Record shows ongoing steps to **serve/cite** and move the case, including **edital** publication and new entries through **September 15, 2025**; the case remains **active**.

Why it matters

On the record, **Piquet declined or defaulted on multiple chances** to resolve a federal environmental matter through ANPP, leading to **formal criminal charges** under Brazil's environmental-crimes statute. The conduct is alleged inside a **federally protected park**, so the **optics and exposure** are materially different from ordinary civil disputes.